

Waller, Peter Henry

Waller 57

Clothing Room

712009 085111000

Curios and Relics

Clothing Accessories

Wallets & Pocket Books

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

THE OSBORNE COMPANY
New York · Chicago · London
OSBORNE ART CALENDARS

"WAIT for the
OSBORNE MAN"



General Offices and Works
NEWARK, N. J.
759-771 Summer Avenue
Phone - Branch Brook 3400
Feb. 15, 1930

Dr. Louis A. Warren
Fort Wayne,
Indiana

Dear Sir:

We are conducting a search for wallets or
pocketbooks known to have been owned by Washington,
Franklin, Jefferson, Lafayette and Lincoln and have been
very kindly referred to you by Miss Josephine E. Rayne
of the New England Historic Genealogical Society.

If you possess such a relic which the writer
might see or if you can suggest further likely sources
of information we shall be glad, indeed, to hear from
you.

Awaiting your reply with interest, we are,

Sincerely yours,

THE OSBORNE COMPANY

By *Russell L. Dunham*

RLD34

Wallets or Purse

February 25, 1930

Mr. Russell L. Durham
The Osborne Company
Newark, New Jersey

My dear Mr. Durham:

Our index of Lincoln Curios does not show a wallet of Abraham Lincoln which has been conserved.

The closest approach I can make to it is a satchel which he is said to have carried, which for some time was in the Ferry Museum, in Tacoma, Washington.

The Lincoln collection formerly in the tomb at Springfield contains the old saddle-bags said to have been used by Lincoln.

I regret that just now I cannot find any evidence of his wallet having been conserved. I shall be pleased to advise you if any information on the subject is forthcoming.

Respectfully yours,

Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

LAW:EB

WORLD NATIONAL
MAIL DEPARTMENT

Address to _____

REC'D SEP 6 1932 **W**

Insurance Co.

INSURANCE CO.

Lurica Miss

Sept 2, 1932

Dear Sir I received your letter
Monday + I will tell you all about
the Pocket Book I can it is a
leather Book about 7 in long
+ 4 inches wide + has a side lock
inside with his name by his own
hand + the date Sept 17, 1833
+ a name James R. Hill
my great grand father + Abraham
Lincoln worked together when
he was a rail splitter my great grand
father said they left their coats
in the woods + went to dinner
and when they come back the
cows had chewed their coats up
and Abraham Lincoln had

121

Left his Pocket Book in his
coat + his Paints Pockets
wasnt deep enough to carry
the Pocket Book + him + my grate
grand father haded Pocket Book
it has Prints of Sows teeth on
one end of it. + how I come to
have it my self my grate
grand father died + my grate
grand mother come to my
fathers house to live + she lived
with us till she died + mother +
father keep it till they died +
then I got it it is genuine
Fathers the Best I have 2 or 3
aunts my grate grand father
grand children can tell you it
belongs to Abner Fricke

And a man. Name
 Nick Pennegim Sikeston Mo
 he really knows it belong to
 Mealm if he isent dead &
 havent heard from him in some
 time if you want you
 would be interested in it Why
 make me some Price & I will
 site & tell you wither I can take
 it or not I have refused some
 offers so busting to hear from
 you soon yours truly

Harry Simmons

Jonica Miss

P.S. I have moved since I
 recued your letter.

POCKET BOOK supposed to have been owned by Lin.

September 21, 1932

Mr. Henry Simmons
Tunica, Mississippi

My dear Mr. Simmons:

Your letter with reference to the Lincoln souvenir which you have is at hand and all I can say is that it would be impossible for us to quote you a price on it inasmuch as we do not appraise any articles which belong to other people.

If you care to put a price upon it and send it along to us for our inspection, we will be pleased to let you know whether or not we care to acquire it.

We are very anxious to have all Lincoln items of this sort we can secured and if a fair price is placed upon it, it is quite likely we will want to buy it.

Very sincerely yours,

LAW:LH

Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

U.S. NATIONAL
MAIL DEPARTMENT
DEC 14 1932
LIFE INSURANCE CO.

Steele M10
Dec. 12, 1932.

Dear Sir I received
your letter stating you
got the Pocket Book glad
you was pleased with it
but rather you would
made me an offer for it
as I have showed it to lots
of people & they all say
its worth lots of money
& I have refused several
offers for it a company
in Boston N.Y. offered me
400 hundred & I refused
it for I am holding it for
5 hundred dollars for

Business Men has
told me they would
sable it for 1 thousand
dollars but if you co
wants it for 5 hundred
dollars why I will sell
it to you all so you
all can see it is really
Lincoln in hand
written + its a old Pocket
book So let me hear
frome you all at once
and what you think
about the Price So
trusting to hear frome
you soon
Yours truly

Henry Simmons
Steel Mo.

C-9

December 15, 1932

Mr. Henry Simmons
Steele, Missouri

My dear Mr. Simmons:

Thank you very much for allowing us to see the
purse which you own and which you have been offered \$400.00
for.

I am sure it would be impossible for us to pay that
much for it, so I am returning it under separate cover and
thanking you very much for allowing us to see it.

Very sincerely, yours,

LAW:LH

Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

Lincoln
MAIL DEPARTMENT

Referred to

REC'D JAN 4 1933 W

Answered

LIFE INSURANCE CO.

Hexter Mo

Jan 2, 1933.

Dear Sir I received your letter stating you couldnt give me Price for Abraham Lincoln Pocket Book you had seen it now what would you all give me for it you make me a Price what you would give I havent received it yet Back. Hope to hear from you soon with an offer I will Probble receive your offer for I havent no need for it so let me hear in return mail Yours

Henry Simmons

Hexter Mo

To C.H. R4
C Park

January 5, 1933

Mr. Henry S. Simmons
Route #4
c/o C. H. Clark
Dexter, Missouri

My dear Mr. Simmons:

On December 12 you wrote me about the wallet you had forwarded for our approval and your letter was written at Steele, Missouri.

Three days later I replied to your letter addressing it of course to Steele, Missouri, and also returned the wallet to Steele, Missouri. The wallet was sent by registered mail and valued at \$500 as you had priced it to me in your letter. Today I am writing to the Postmaster at Steele to have the mail directed to you there, forwarded to Dexter, care of C. H. Clark, R. R. #4, where you are apparently staying. Will you please advise me immediately upon receipt of the wallet so I may know it is placed in your hands.

When you sent the wallet to us insured you insured it for \$5.00, yet when you priced it to us you asked us \$500 for it and stated that you had already received an offer of \$400 for the wallet. I immediately wrote you that we would not be interested in it and I regret to have put you to the trouble of sending it on.

Very sincerely yours,

LAW:MB

Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

Post Office Department

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

REGISTERED ARTICLE

No. 70815

INSURED PARCEL

No. _____

LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.

Return to _____

(NAME OF SENDER)

Street and Number, }
or Post Office Box, } _____

FORT WAYNE,

INDIANA.

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300

POSTMARK OF DELIVERING
OFFICE

AND DATE OF DELIVERY

RETURN RECEIPT

Received from the Postmaster the Registered or Insured Article, the original number of which appears on the face of this Card.

[Faint signature]

(Signature or name of addressee.)

(Signature of addressee's agent.)

Date of delivery,

1 / 4, 193*3*

Form 3811

MORRIS H. BRIGGS

RARE BOOKS

506 South Wabash Avenue

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Jan. 10, 1935.

TELEPHONE:
WEBSTER 3366

SPECIALIST: LINCOLNIANA
WESTERN AMERICANA

Louis A. Warren,
Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Dear Mr. Warren:

I have received from a correspondent an old leather pocket book and note book. There is a date in the book, Sep't. 17, 1833 and two signatures, "A. Lincoln and Jemima R. Hill."

Neither the handwriting nor the appearance of the entries are characteristic of Lincoln and unless there is a Jemima R. Hill connected with Lincoln during his early years, I should not give it any consideration. Samuel Hill was the postmaster at New Salem but I find no record of others.

If you have any information regarding a Jemima R. Hill I shall, of course, greatly appreciate hearing from you. The book is old without doubt. The "L" in Lincoln does not resemble any I have ever seen by him. I enclose two rough copies.

Sincerely,

M. H. Briggs

5

Supplies Bureau

January 14, 1935

Mr. Morris H. Briggs
506 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Mr. Briggs:

I regret that I cannot locate the correspondence which we had with the party who owns the pocketbook which you write about.

It appears to me we made an attempt at that time to find a Jemima R. Hill and were unsuccessful. It also occurs to me that we had copies of the signature which did not seem to be the signature of Abraham Lincoln.

If we can find this correspondence we may be able to help you in making your decision but inasmuch as we cannot recall the name of the writer, we are at a loss to know where to look.

Yours very truly,

LAW:LE

Director

